

Dear Member of Congress:

On April 13, 2011, Reps. Andrews (D-NJ) and Garrett (R-NJ) introduced HCR39. It concludes that "it is the sense of Congress that—

- (1) grave concerns exist concerning the continued deployment by the Government of the People's Republic of China of over 1,400 ballistic missiles directed toward Taiwan, which threaten security and stability in the Taiwan Strait;
- (2) the President should seek a public and unequivocal renunciation from the leaders of the People's Republic of China of any threat or use of force against Taiwan and the region;
- (3) the future of Taiwan should be determined peacefully by the people of Taiwan and free from coercion by the Government of the People's Republic of China; and
- (4) the President should take immediate steps to redress the deteriorating balance of airpower noted by the 2010 DOD's annual report on China's military power, and move forward expeditiously with the sale to Taiwan of new F-16 C/D aircraft and upgrades of the existing F-16 A/B fleet.

Today's Taiwan remains under an ominous shadow cast by over 1600 short and medium-range ballistic missiles that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has aimed at it. The PRC continues to refuse to renounce the use of force against Taiwan and passed the "Anti-Secession Law" in 2005 mandating military action if Taiwan moves towards formal de jure independence.

To help remedy this precarious situation, Taipei has asked the U.S. to sell Taiwan 66 new F16's and the request is "under consideration" by the White House. Taiwan's Air Force has stated that today it has no more than 240 jet fighters operationally capable for actual combat. Additionally, if Taiwan does not acquire these 66 F-16 C/D jet fighters soon, by 2025 it will only have some 80 operational fighter planes left capable of withstanding a military attack by China.

Here in the United States, the F-16 C/D assembly line is scheduled to shut down in 2013 leading to loss of high-tech jobs if there are no new orders forthcoming. This means that there is only little time left for Washington to commit to selling Taiwan the fighter jets it needs. Also, if we don't sell F-16s to Taiwan soon we will be condemning Taiwan's air defense to a decisive second place. Selling the F-16C/D is the minimum necessary to maintain a semblance of a balance across the Strait

We would appreciate if you would contact Stephen Hunter at 225-6501 or Stephen.Hunter@mail.house.gov to become a co-sponsor of this important resolution. Thank you for your support for Taiwan! Sincerely,

Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____ Phone _____